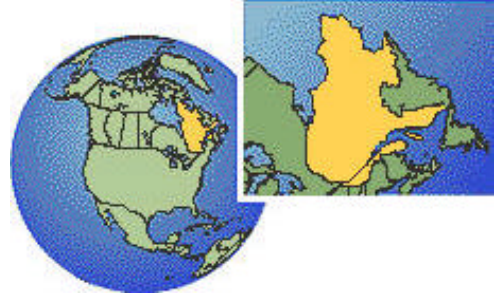




Fact Sheet Quebec

QUEBEC'S PLACE IN THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

Quebec is Canada's second largest economic region after Ontario. Quebec represents 21 percent of Canada's economy. In the Canadian economy, Quebec represents 25% of information technologies, 55% of aerospace production, 30% of the pharmaceutical industry, 40% of biotechnology companies and 44% of all Canadian high-tech exports.



QUEBEC'S IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

- In 2003 Quebec imported over US\$13 billion worth of goods from the United States.
- Overall Quebec's imports of goods from the United States represent over 40 percent of Quebec's imports from outside Canada.
- Leading imports from the United States are vehicles, computers, aircraft engines and parts, telecommunication equipment, automobile parts, trucks and tractors, electronic parts, airplane and helicopter parts, pharmaceuticals and medicines, plastics, chemicals, wood products and paper.
- Companies in the aerospace, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and information technology sectors heavily import goods, services, parts, equipment and supplies from the United States.
- Major products exported by Quebec are, in descending order, transportation equipment (primarily aircraft and railroad equipment), primary metals, aluminum in particular, paper, electrical and electronic products, lumber, chemicals, food, machinery, clothing and metal products.
- In 2003, Quebec exported 57 percent of its gross domestic product to other provinces of Canada or to other countries.
- During the 1988 to 2003 period, Quebec's international exports outstripped its sales of products to other provinces.
- 80 percent of Quebec's international exports go to the United States.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- The province of Quebec is North American in geography, French in origin, and British in parliamentary tradition.
- Quebec is 81 percent French-speaking.
- Quebec's population is 7.4 million – one of four Canadians lives in Quebec.
- Montreal is the largest metropolitan area in Quebec with 3.4 million people and the economic center of Quebec.
- Montreal is the world's second-largest French-speaking city after Paris, yet is largely bilingual in English (especially in the business community).
- With an abundance of natural resources and energy, Quebec remains strong in the agriculture, mining, and hydroelectric industries. The traditionally strong manufacturing and services sectors also provide stability in the highly industrialized Quebec economy.
- The labor force in Quebec was 4.1 million in 2003, compared with 5.6 million in Ontario and 14.3 million in all of Canada.
- The services sector was the largest employer, representing 74 percent of the total workforce.
- Manufacturing employed 18 percent of the workforce; construction 4 percent; agriculture 2 percent and forestry, fishing and mining 1 percent.
- Quebec is one of the leading producers of hydroelectric power in North America thanks to the province's extensive water resources.

Sources: Statistics Canada, Government of Quebec, Industry Canada

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